

---

## DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

---

Stiaes

HB No. 179

**Abstract:** Relative to pupil progression, prohibits using test scores, including LEAP scores, as the sole criteria for determining student promotion to the succeeding grade.

Present law, relative to the Louisiana Educational Assessment Program (LEAP), requires the state Dept. of Education, with the approval of the State Board of Elementary and Secondary Education (BESE), to establish the levels of proficiency based on certain tests administered pursuant to present law for students in certain grades. Specifically requires BESE to establish the level of proficiency needed for fourth and eighth grade students to proceed with schooling without intervention. Requires the state Dept. of Education, with BESE approval, to establish various intervention options for students who fail to demonstrate proficiency, which may include remediation, grade retention, or alternative placement in succeeding grades.

Proposed law retains present law except deletes the requirement that BESE establish the proficiency levels for fourth and eighth grade students, removes grade retention from the list of options for students who fail to demonstrate proficiency, and specifically prohibits the use of grade retention solely on the basis of failure to achieve certain test results. Proposed law further prohibits the use of test scores, including LEAP scores, as the sole criteria for determining student promotion to the succeeding grade.

Present law provides that students who fail to meet required achievement levels on certain LEAP tests shall be offered education programs to accelerate progress which shall include, at a minimum, a summer school remediation program for students who fail to meet the minimum achievement level necessary to be promoted to the fifth or ninth grade as established by BESE rule. Provides exemptions from such requirement for students whose parent or guardian signs a form which contains certain specified statements.

Proposed law retains present law except requires that summer remediation programs be offered for all students who fail to meet the achievement levels, not just those who fail to meet such levels to be promoted to the fifth and ninth grades. Proposed law deletes the exemption requirements.

Present law authorizes BESE to establish a procedure allowing the state superintendent of education to grant a waiver to any student with an exceptionality who fails to meet the required achievement level necessary for promotion to the next grade on a test administered pursuant to present law if requested by the local superintendent and if the student meets certain criteria established by the board relative to attendance, grades, and conduct.

Proposed law deletes present law.

(Amends R.S. 17:24.4(F)(4)(a), (G)(4)(a) and (c), and (H))